

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 7, line 23 and ending at page 8, line 19 as follows:

One or more of the above objects of the present invention are achieved by a loading mechanism in a recording and reproduction apparatus including a tray receiving an information recording medium, the loading mechanism moving the tray between a position at which information is recorded on or reproduced from the information recording medium and a position at which the information recording medium is removable from the tray, the loading mechanism including: a groove part for guiding the tray, the groove part being provided to one of the tray and a holding member holding the tray; and a projecting part for guiding the tray, the projecting part being provided to the other one of the tray and the holding member, the projecting part fitting with the groove part with a slight clearance (play) being provided therebetween, wherein an amount of the fitting of the groove part with the projecting part differs between first and second positions, the first position being more distant from a center part of a portion of the tray on which portion the information recording medium is placed than the second position.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 8, line 20 and ending at page 9, line 16 as follows:

One or more of the above objects of the present invention are also achieved by a recording and reproduction apparatus, including: a tray receiving an information recording medium; a holding member holding the tray; and a loading mechanism moving the tray between a position at which information is recorded on or reproduced from the information recording medium and a position at which the information

recording medium is removable from the tray, the loading mechanism including: a groove part for guiding the tray, the groove part being provided to one of the tray and the holding member; and a projecting part for guiding the tray, the projecting part being provided to the other one of the tray and the holding member, the projecting part fitting with the groove part with a slight clearance (play) being provided therebetween, wherein an amount of the fitting of the groove part with the projecting part differs between first and second positions, the first position being more distant from a center part of a portion of the tray on which portion the information recording medium is placed than the second position.

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 14, line 21 and ending at page 15, line 18 as follows:

On the other hand, on each Y-directional end of the tray 3, a guide part 24 including a groove part 23 extending along the X-axis is provided as shown in FIGS. 6 and 7. The bosses 21 and each groove part 23 are fitted together (or engaged) with a slight clearance (play) being provided therebetween so that the tray 3 and the frame 7 are movable relative to each other. Referring to FIG. 7, each groove part 23 of the tray 3 includes a first (outer) sidewall 24a and a second (inner) sidewall 24b. The distance from the center part of the disk placement part 3a is greater at the first sidewall 24a than at the second sidewall 24b. The first sidewall 24a extends (projects) more in the Z_2 direction so as to have a greater amount of fitting (engagement) with the bosses 21 than the second sidewall 24b. That is, in each groove part 23, the amount of extension (projection) of the groove part 23 is greater at a first position than at a second position, the first position being more distant from the center part of the disk placement part 3a than the second position, so that the groove part 23 fits with the bosses 21 in a greater amount at the first position than at the second position.